

## **Congressional Art Competition General Guidelines**

The Competition is open to students who reside in the Twentieth District of California. If you are unsure if you live in the District, please contact our office with your 9-digit Zip Code+4 so we may verify your eligibility. You may also visit the website at [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) to determine in which Congressional district you reside.

Art work must fall within the following categories:

- Paintings: Oil, Acrylics, Watercolor, etc.
- Drawings: Pastels, Colored Pencil, Pencil, Charcoal, Ink, Markers
- Collage: Must be 2 dimensional
- Prints: Lithograph, Silkscreen, Block Prints
- Mixed Media
- Computer Generated Art
- Photography

In order to allow an art work to hang in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol, the following restrictions are necessary:

- Art work must be **two-dimensional** only.
- A piece may be no larger than **32 inches by 32 inches** to the outside dimensions of the frame, and no more than **4 inches in depth**.
- Each entry must be an Original in Concept, Design, and Execution and may not violate any U.S. Copyright Laws. An entry may NOT be reproduced from an existing Photo, Painting, or any other work.
- Each entry must be submitted with a signed Student Release form by the Teacher and the Student to certify the originality of the art piece.
- The Final Decision regarding Suitability for the Exhibition in the Capitol will be made by a panel of qualified persons chaired by the Architect of the Capitol. While it is not the intent to censor any artwork, all artwork will be reviewed by the panel and any portions not in consonance with the Commission's policy will be omitted from the exhibit.
- In accordance with the official policy of the House Office Building Commission, exhibits depicting subjects of contemporary political controversy or a sensationalistic or gruesome nature are not allowed.

It is the responsibility of the local winner to **frame** the winning entry for the Exhibition in the Capitol according to the following guidelines:

- The District winner will be notified of their accomplishment and will have one week to frame their entry for submission to the Architect of the Capitol in Washington, DC.
- All work, except for Oil Painting, must be protected by a Plexiglas or Glass frame. Plexiglas is recommended to avoid breakage.
- Framed work must be no larger than 32 inches high, 32 inches wide, and 4 inches deep to the outside dimensions of the frame.
- Frames should be as sturdy and simple as possible. Metal frames are suggested.
- Matting should be carefully considered to avoid detracting from the work of art.

- Use sturdy picture hangers on the back of the frame. Two hooks at the right and left sides of the back of the work are recommended.
- If the Artwork is abstract in design, please indicate on the back side which side is up.
- The Members of Congress and the Architect of the Capitol bear no responsibility for artwork that is mishandled, damaged, or lost en route to the Capitol.